Operation Iragi Freedom II

"Telling the First Team's Story"

August 31, 2004

Command Sgt. Maj. Neil Ciotola, 1st Cavalry Division, assumed his new appointment as the highest enlisted Soldier in the division, during a change of responsibility ceremony at Camp Cooke, Iraq, Aug. 28.

Ciotola was the command sergeant major for the 2nd Brigade Combat Team prior to his new appointment as the command sergeant major of the division. During the ceremony, Ciotola received the division colors, passed down to him from Division Commander Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli.

The passing of the colrepresents change of responsibility from the acting command sergeant major of the division, Command Maj. Gerald Schindler to Ciotola.



Headhunter Leaders Train to Standard

By Spc. Jan Critchfield 122nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq -Training to standard; it's a common saying in the Army, but for non-commissioned officers of the 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry of the 1st Regiment Cavalry Division, they learned the importance of training to standard as they participated in the first non-commissioned officer leadership training course in Iraq. As their training culminated they were faced with a real-life combat situation, which forced them

to put their new skills into practice.

The five-day course, similar to the Army's Primary Leadership Development Course, focused on maintaining and improving the Soldiers' discipline, while learning skills leadership they would need as non-commissioned officers. According to 1-9 Cav. Command Sgt. Maj. Donald Felt, the course was more geared toward leading troops in a combat zone.

"The idea of a team leader course was something [Headhunter

Commander Lt. Thomas Macdonaldl and I talked about a long time ago ... because of the preparation for the deployment, we never really got it picked up off the ground," Felt said.

Even though Headhunters are already involved in combat situations in Baghdad, the need for leadership-development training didn't end.

"There was a void," Felt said. "We have had a number of Soldiers promoted to sergeant ... we have

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IEDs Harm More Than Soldiers

By Pfc. Matthew McLaughlin 10th Mtn. Div. Public Affairs

VICTORY CAMP NORTH, Iraq - An improvised explosive device (IED) blast cannot see a A weapon of uniform. choice for insurgents, IEDs indiscriminately kill and destroy anything around it, including innocent bystanders.

An IED struck a bridge along Route Tampa Aug. No Soldiers were injured but the bridge was incapacitated and an irrigation structure supplying the local community with water for farming was also seriously damaged, said 1st Lt. Thomas Overmyer, Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division.

"They actually did more harm to their own people than us in the long run," he said.

This is not the first IED 2-14 INF Soldiers encountered that caused more damage to the Iraqi community than to Soldiers. During patrols supporting the Iraqi National Conference, an IED struck 2-14 Infantry Soldiers on patrol Aug. 15. No Soldiers were harmed but the vehicle was incapacitated. Another irrigation structure supplying was also damaged,

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1-9 Conducts Leadership Development Training

Continued from Page 1 another group of Soldiers who are specialists promotable [to sergeant]. [None of these Soldiers] were getting any primaryleadership development training. We wanted to focus on our junior sergeants [with] combat-oriented [tasks]; cross train on a number of things that they need to be able to train their [subordinates] on."

Day one started with a physical fitness test. Crammed into the days in between were many hours of instruction on the Army values, operation procedure such as pre-combat inspection, planning, first aid, radio communications, as well as other skills that are vital to Soldier's in a leadership position.

During the weapons training portion of the course, the Headhunters learned how to

unload, and correct malfunctions on numerous weapons. The Soldiers also went to a range and conducted day and night reflexive fire.

"This better prepares them to jump into the NCO arena of the Army," said Master Sgt. Steve Overby, who was in charge of training the class. "By putting them in somewhat stressful situations, they'll be able to react better in real world situations when they're out on the streets of Baghdad."

One day of training included an unscheduled reaction to indirect fire when their camp came under mortar attack. An incoming round impacted near the trainees, and they were forced to recall previous training and put it to use on the spot.

While the culminating field exercise was being conducted on the southern



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAD

Task Force 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment Soldiers participating in a leadership development course move toward their objective during an Aug. 26 field exercise on the southern portion of Forward Operating Base Headhunter.

Base Headhunter, the trainees and instructors came under attack again when they received smallarms fire and once again

side of Forward Operating the situation gained an unexpected level of real-

> "It couldn't have been a more perfect environment," Overby said.

IEDs Indisriminately Destroy Infrastructure, Harm Innocent

Continued from Page 1

This is just another example of reckless insurgent tactics causing harm to the Iraqi community, said Capt. William Prayner, Jr., HHC, 2-14 INF commander.

"Not only was the IED detrimental to the security of Iraq, they also damaged the local infrastructure as well." he said.

Iraqi citizens aren't as however. fortunate, Innocent bystanders often are caught in the reckless blast of IEDs or rocket propelled grenades. Children have been victims

curiosity in many instances, Pfc. August Dumbrow. Headquarters Company 2nd BDE, 10th Mnt. Div. said.

"Kids are curious." Dumbrow said. "Some IEDs and mines look like toys. They go to play with it and die. Those weapons

are indiscriminate. They'll detonate on anyone.'

DeLeon said she has no respect for the insurgents and considers their tactics un-soldierly.

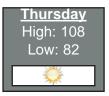
"The enemy uses IEDs and RPGs from a distance," she said. It's a coward's way of fighting."

Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

Do you speak English? hal tetaKALum enGLIzi

Tuesdav High: 108 Low: 82





Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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News Notes

Troops Can Vote Online in Missouri

ATLANTA (Journal-Constitution) -- A plan to make the presidential battleground of Missouri the first state to allow military voters serving in combat zones such as Iraq to cast their absentee ballots via e-mail is renewing concerns about the security of online voting. Missouri Secretary of State Matt Blunt, a Republican running for governor, announced the plan Wednesday, saying that "simplifying the voting process for these heroes is the least we can do." The move surprised some computer security experts and voting watchdog groups, who said yesterday that the new rules could lead to Election Day fraud.

Pollsters Concerned about Draft Return

WASHINGTON (AP) --Despite repeated assurances by the Bush administration that there are no plans to reinstitute conscription, a national survey released Wednesday found nearly six in 10 adults -- 58 percent -- are concerned the country "could be headed for a draft in the near future." Among those of draft age, 32 percent of those questioned said they would not serve if they were drafted, and another 20 percent said they would actively seek deferment. The telephone survey of 1,028 adults was conducted Aug. 2-8. The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

USS Razorback Returns to Arkansas

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (Democrat-Gazette) - Thousands of people gathered Sunday on the banks of the Arkansas River to welcome a historic U.S. submarine to its new home at the site of an inland maritime museum.

The rusty, barnacled USS Razorback is believed to be the world's longest-serving submarine, spending 31 years with the Turkish navy after the Navy decommissioned and sold the vessel in 1970.

City officials in North Little Rock bought the submarine from Turkey for \$1 plus shipping costs to make it the centerpiece of the 10.5 million Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum.

About 7,500 cheering well-wishers welcomed the vessel, waving flags and listening to bands and speeches.

The 312-foot Razorback departed from Istanbul on May 5, towed



Spectators watch the USS Razorback submarine being towed down the Arkansas River, Sunday, Aug. 29, 2004, near Little Rock, Ark., during the submarine's trip to its new home on the banks of the Arkansas River in North Little Rock, Ark. The submarine, which was towed from Turkey, is the center piece for a planned inland maritime museum on the banks of the river.

by an oceangoing tugboat.

It was launched in 1944 and was one of 12 U.S. submarines present at the official Japanese surrender that ended World War II. It was awarded five battle stars during World War II and four during the Vietnam War.

The submarine's name is unrelated to the Razorback mascot of the University of Arkansas. The vessel was named for a species of whale.

Is Ft. Hood Ready for More Troops?

KILLEEN, Texas (Killeen Daily Herald) - The Army's announcement July 23 that Fort Hood would receive about 5,000 troops for the 4th Infantry Division was news community leaders around the post had been aggressively working for as they looked to gain about 8,000 troops under the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

The decision to send 5,000 troops to Fort Hood next year under the Army's transformation program has not ended efforts to gain still more troops under the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

"So far, the folks at Fort Hood have told us they can handle between 5,000 to 8,000 troops," retired Lt. Gen. Pete Taylor said shortly after the announcement. Taylor is chairman of the Heart of Texas Defense Alliance, which has headed the area's lobbying efforts for more troops.

Five thousand doesn't exactly give us that, so we can take some more, and we will continue to ask for more until the folks at Fort Hood tell us otherwise."

The 5,000 new troops will become part of the 4th Infantry Division, which will get a new brigade.



Killeen Daily Herald

Fort Hood is the largest U.S. Army installation in the world. New troops are being rotated in from overseas posts in Europe and Asia.

Sports/Leisure

Games Close with Grand Ceremony

ATHENS, Greece (NBC) -- Before a crowd of some 70,000 and beneath a full moon and flourishes of fireworks, Greece bid farewell to the 2004 Olympic Summer Games on Sunday night.

The games' closing ceremony was far more informal and festive than the stately, dramatic opening ceremony and featured an array of Greece's most popular singers.

After taking the podium to declare the end of Athens Games. International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge told the Greek people, "You have won. You have won by brilliantly meeting the tough challenge of holding the games. These were unforgettable, dream games."



Reuters

Fireworks explode at the start of the closing ceremony of the Athens 2004 Olympic Games.

The Olympic flag was then officially passed from the mayor of Athens to the mayor of Beijing, host city of the 2008 Summer Games, and performances of Chinese music and dance began.

Following the performances, the Olympic

flame that had burned high above the stadium throughout the Games was lowered so that it could symbolically light lanterns carried by children, and one child symbolically extinguished the flame with a puff of air in its direction.

Sports Shorts



Senior Gets 13th at Pentathlon

ATHENS. Greece (Army News) - First Lt. Chad Senior saved his best for last, but it wasn't nearly enough as he finished 13th in men's pentathlon modern Aug. 26 in the 2004 Summer Olympic Games at Goudi Olympic Complex. Senior, 29, a member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program from North Fort Myers, Fla., finished second in the 3,000-meter crosscountry run with a time of 9 minutes, 35.76 seconds. It was the last of five events that included pistol shooting, fencing, swimming and equestrian riding.

Texas 5, Mexico 0

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. National Little League of Richmond, Texas, beat Linda Vista Little League of Guadalupe, Mexico, 5-0 in the consolation game for Little League World Series. It gave Texas 3rd place. Meanwhile Conejo Valley of Thousand Oaks, Calif., lost to Curaço to give Netherlands Antilles first place in the series. It was the first Little League title for the tiny island in the Netherlands Antilles.

Ward Salvages U.S. Team with Gold Win

ATHENS, Greece. (AP) - Boxing in the memory of his late father, Andre Ward became the only American boxer to win a gold medal, beating Magomed Aripgadjiev of Belarus on Sunday to



Andre Ward holds the American flag after winning the light heavyweight final Sunday.

claim the light heavyweight title.

Ward's father, who introduced his son to boxing, died suddenly two years ago and Ward boxed through the Olympics with a picture of him in his shoes. Deeply religious, he said he believes his father helped guide him to the gold.

"I felt his spirit all through this tournament," Ward said.

Ward's win in the last fight of the games salvaged what had been a bleak Olympics for the U.S. boxing team, which brought nine boxers to Athens but had only one bronze medal to show for it before Ward stepped in the ring.

Showing the maturity that most of his teammates

lacked, Ward shook off a swollen eye to turn the fight around in the third round and win a 20-13 decision.

"I just couldn't see myself coming away with a bronze or silver medal," Ward said. "I couldn't see myself settling for that."

It was the first gold medal for the United States since David Reid's win in 1996, and it couldn't have come at a better time for the beleaguered U.S. boxing program.

Medals	G	S	В	Tot.
	35	39	29	103
	27	27	38	92
*	32	17	14	63

At the end of the games the U.S. led the medal race with 103.